

A portrait of James Darren, a man with dark hair and a slight smile, wearing a dark suit jacket over a red collared shirt. He is positioned on the left side of the frame, looking towards the camera. The background is a gradient of blue and black.

JAMES
DARREN

Because of You

"Darren is smooth as silk..." Chicago Sun Times

In the tradition of such classic crooners as Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett, James Darren is one of the few true originals. For this new recording—replete with big band and lush strings—James Darren delivers swingin' tunes and ballads in his own signature, heartfelt style. Each song is a personal favorite, handpicked by Darren specially for this collection. With Darren's rich baritone voice and hip, swinging phrasing, each song—from love songs to standards to pop classics—comes to life as timeless new versions are born.

JAMES DARREN, Vocals

1. JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS (3:11)
2. MY KIND OF GIRL (3:09)
3. CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF OF YOU (4:46)
4. A NIGHTINGALE SANG IN BERKELEY SQUARE (2:43)
5. MORE TODAY THAN YESTERDAY (2:57)
6. BLAME IT ON MY YOUTH (4:53)
7. BECAUSE OF YOU (2:19)
8. GOOD LIFE (3:05)
9. I'M A FOOL TO WANT YOU (5:13)
10. BOULEVARD OF BROKEN DREAMS (4:04)
11. OUR DAY WILL COME (2:31)
12. I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING BUT LOVE (2:38)
13. MY OLD FLAME (4:41)
14. DREAM A LITTLE DREAM OF ME (4:27)

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO



Produced by: Gregg Field

Executive Producers: Glen Barros & John Burk

Conducted by: Patrick Williams

Recorded and Mixed by: Al Schmitt

Additional recording by: Gregg Field

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1. JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS (3:11)

Arranged by Patrick Williams ♫ (Cole Porter) Harms, Inc. | ASCAP

"This one was a gift from Patrick Williams. It's the chart he'd written for Frank Sinatra's *Duets* album. For some reason, Frank never recorded it. Frank had a lower range than I do, so I sang those low registers an octave higher, which gives the song a whole new twist."

2. MY KIND OF GIRL (3:09)

Arranged by Patrick Williams ♫ (Leslie Bricusse) Hollis Music, Inc. | BMI

"This is one of the songs I've always loved, since Matt Monro did it back in 1961. Again, I wanted to give it a totally different spin. I wanted to do it in a Count Basie way, and we did just that. Monro's version did swing, but it didn't cook like this one does."

3. CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF OF YOU (4:46)

Arranged and Conducted by David Campbell ♫ With Monica Mancini
(Bob Crewe / Bob Gaudio) EMI Longitude Music / Seasons Four Music | BMI

"I always thought this was a beautifully romantic song that should have been done as a ballad, which is the way I chose to record it. The arrangement by David Campbell, Beck's dad, incidentally, with Monica Mancini in for a bit of harmony, really gives the song a different voice. It's very romantic."

4. A NIGHTINGALE SANG IN BERKELEY SQUARE (2:43)

Arranged by Patrick Williams ♫ (Eric Maschwitz / Manning Sherwin) Colgems EMI Music Inc. / Shapiro Bernstein & Co., Inc. | ASCAP

"My son Tony told me about this one. It was done by Frank Sinatra as a beautiful ballad, but I wanted to swing it. Who better than Patrick Williams to make it swing!"

5. MORE TODAY THAN YESTERDAY (2:57)

Arranged by Patrick Williams ♫ (Patrick N. Upton) Lynnwood Music / Miss Muffit Music / Regent Music Corp. | BMI

"One of my favorite songs of all time. This is such an emotionally 'up' tune. It's a song that I did 30 years ago in clubs and I never forgot it. Again, the song was done in a shuffle back then, but when I got together with Patrick, I said, "Let's swing it." That's not always possible with every song, because you run the risk of being hokey. But it's this incredible marriage of Williams's brilliant arrangement and lyrics that lend themselves perfectly for swing."

6. BLAME IT ON MY YOUTH (4:53)

Arranged by Ray Ellis ♫ (Edward Heyman / Oscar Levant) Oscar Levant Music / Universal Polygram
International Publishing, Inc. | ASCAP

"This is a song by Oscar Levant, that few people have heard of. In fact, when I mentioned it to the guys, no one knew it, or its composer. But I actually first recorded it back in 1960 and I always felt it was this beautiful, romantic song, and I had to record it here with Ray Ellis's incredible arrangement."

7. BECAUSE OF YOU (2:19)

Arranged by Ray Ellis ♫ (Arthur Hammerstein / Dudley Wilkinson) Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. | BMI

"Of course, this is classic Tony Bennett. I wore out more records of this song, playing it over and over again when I was young. It brings back so many memories of my youth, when I thought I was so cool. It's one of my favorite songs and I love singing it. Again, Ray took it in a whole new jazzed direction with the arrangement. It really swings."

8. GOOD LIFE (3:05)

Arranged by Patrick Williams ♫ (Alexandre Sacha Distel / Jack Reardon / Alec Wilder) Ludlow Music, Inc. | BMI

"Again, it's Bennett at his best. It's a terrific song, done differently than his version. But it was not my intent on any of these songs to try and duplicate the original. I mean, how can you try to touch what Bennett did? Or what Sinatra did? It's a new style for the song, and one I think people will like."

9. I'M A FOOL TO WANT YOU (5:13)

Arranged by Patrick Williams ♫ (Joel S. Herron / Frank Sinatra / Jack Wolf) Barton Music Corporation / Integrity Music Corporation / WB Music Corp. | ASCAP

"I always loved this tune. I recorded it for Don Kirshner back in the '70s, but not like this. It's just one of those 'gut' songs that you sing from the heart, when your heart's been broken like it's never been broken before. It's a torch song in the ultimate sense of the word. People might not think of me as that kind of a singer. Hopefully they will now."

10. BOULEVARD OF BROKEN DREAMS (4:04)

Arranged by Bob Krogstadt ♫ Guitar solo: Jim Fox ♫ (Al Dubin / Harry Warren) Warner Bros. Inc. | ASCAP

"This is another song I grew up with and loved. I wanted to do it different than Bennett had done, so we came up with a subtle bossa nova, a touch of Antonio Carlos Jobim. I wanted a very different mood for this song and it all came together with Bob Krogstadt's fabulous arrangement. And interestingly, this song was sort of fate for me, because I was in an antique shop in Northern California last year, and I was looking through some old magazines and sheet music, and there was the music for 'Boulevard.' I knew I had to record it."

11. OUR DAY WILL COME (2:31)

Arranged by Ray Ellis ♫ (Mort Garson / Bob Hilliard) Bourne Co. / Universal MCA Music | ASCAP

"Ray Ellis is one of those incredible arrangers who can take a song and give it a whole new style, even if everybody else says it's not possible. I wanted to swing this song, and he nailed it for me. It's a song that's very dear to my heart, and it's dedicated to my late uncle Dom."

12. I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING BUT LOVE (2:38)

Arranged by Patrick Williams ♫ (Dorothy Fields / Jimmy McHugh) Aldi Music Company / Cotton Club Publishing | ASCAP

"Lyrically this is such a cool song. It says so many things. I mean, you're approaching a lady and pouring your heart out in no uncertain terms. We gave it this big band spin that just makes it all the more fun to sing."

13. MY OLD FLAME (4:41)

Arranged by Bob Krogstadt ♫ Tenor sax solo: Pete Christleib ♫ (Sam Coslow / Arthur Johnston) Famous Music Corp. | ASCAP

"This is an old jazz tune, a song that my dad and mom would sing when I was a young kid, back in the '40s. Melodically, it's a killer. And the lyrics—such beautiful longing. With some songs you just hit a home run, and we did it with this one."

14. DREAM A LITTLE DREAM OF ME (4:27)

Arranged by Bob Krogstadt ♫ (Fabian Andre / Gus Kahn / Wilbur Schwandt) Don Swan Publications / Essex Music Inc. / Keyes Gilbert Music Company / Words & Music, Inc. | ASCAP

"Years ago, my mom would sing this song to me. Dean Martin recorded it, and of course, Mama Cass did a beautiful version. Our version isn't drastically different, but it's different enough. When I sing this one, and really as I sing most romantic tunes, I'm singing to whoever's in that song. I find the person inside the music and sing it to them. I'm just a romantic at heart."

Also hear James Darren on:

This One's From The Heart CCD-4868-2

James Darren, vocals

Harmony Vocal: Monica Mancini (track 3)

Keyboards: Tom Ranier

Bass: Chuck Berghofer

Drums and Percussion: Gregg Field

Guitars: Jim Fox

Trumpets: Warren Luening, Rick Baptist, Wayne Bergeron, and George Graham

Trombone: Bill Watrous, Charlie Loper, Bob McChesney, and Phil Teele

* Saxophones: Gary Foster, Greg Huckins, Terry Harrington, and Lee Callet

Flutes: Sheridan Stokes and James Walker

Oboe: Earl Dumler

French Horn: Paul Klintworth

Violins: Assa Drori—Concertmaster, Darius Campo, Joel Derouin, Bob Sanov, Kristin Fife, David Stenske,

Raymond Kobler, Carolyn Osborn, Olivia Tsui, Hanna Krejci, and Jennifer Walton

Violas: Karen Baukinen and Renita Koven

Celli: Christina Soule and Matt Cooker

Bass: Paul Morin

Harp: Julie Berghofer

Produced by Gregg Field

Executive Producers: Glen Barros & John Burk

Conducted by Patrick Williams

Recorded March 2001 at Capitol Studios,
Los Angeles, CA, and G Studio Digital, Los Angeles, CA

Recorded and Mixed by Al Schmitt

Additional recording by Gregg Field

Assistant Engineers: Seth Presant and John Hendrickson

Mastered by Doug Sacks at The Mastering Lab, Los Angeles, CA

Production Manager: Andrea R. Nelson

Art Direction: Sara Butorac

Photography: Michael Hillier

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The Man

There are magical moments when song and singer become one, when a man steps up to the microphone and the music world takes notice. Such is the case with this incredible album, and the man at the microphone, James Darren.

A musical journey through swing, lush ballads and unrelenting jazz, *Because of You* marks Darren's return to the Great American songbook, with a couple of fiery pop curveballs thrown in for good measure. From the jump-start brassiness of "**Just One of Those Things**" to the lush romanticism of "**Blame It On My Youth**" to the broken-heartedness of "**I'm A Fool to Want You**," Darren has put his personal stamp on 14 classics, and the result is nothing short of fabulous.

In the tradition of Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett, (two of Darren's favorite singers), *Because of You* takes plenty of risks with each note of every song; only the best singers will dare go beyond what's been done before. But when it's right, when an arrangement and singer take a timeless melody and make it sing a whole new way, there's great cause for celebration. For a few days in March, there must have been plenty of celebrating at Capitol Studios in Los Angeles, where Darren, in the tradition of those great ones before him, and in the company of many of the arrangers and musicians who worked with Sinatra, recorded most of these songs before a full orchestra—the only way to swing.

"They're all from the heart," Darren will tell you of the songs he chose for this album. And heartfelt and honest they are; the songs are right for him, and he's oh so right for them. Romantic. Pretty. Hot. Cool. Darren sets a new tone for each cut. And while you may have heard the songs before, you've never heard them quite like this. Sit back and enjoy the ride.

Miriam Di Nunzio May 2001



This CD is dedicated in loving memory of
*Michael Dispigno, Uncle Dom DiJossie,
and Lillian Behr*

James Darren

Special thanks from James Darren and Gregg Field: Patrick Williams, Ray Ellis, Bob Krogstadt and David Campbell for their brilliant arrangements. Al Schmitt for making it so easy and for the best sound on the planet! Michael Frondelli, Paula Salvatore and our Capitol Family, Audio Affects, Bruce Monical and Vintage Studio Rentals. And to all who have worked on this recording, you are the best!



In the tradition of such classic crooners as Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett is another one of the few true originals, **James Darren**. For his new recording—replete with big band and lush strings—James Darren delivers swingers and ballads his way—*heartfelt*. Darren himself handpicked each song featured on ***Because of You*** and they are amongst his personal favorites. And with Darren's rich baritone voice and hip, relaxed, swinging phrasing, each song—from love songs to standards to pop classics—comes to life as timeless new versions are born.

SELECTIONS:

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